Melissa Robyn Paschal - Fwd: RMP trying to delay introduction of the smart grid AGAIN

From:

Carol Revelt

To:

Paschal, Melissa Robyn

Date:

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Subject:

Fwd: RMP trying to delay introduction of the smart grid AGAIN

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>>> <ehrbar@greenhouse.economics.utah.edu> 9/3/2011 12:56 PM >>>

On Aug 17 RMP filed a report with the PSC which says:

- > In order to prudently manage the costs and risks to the
- > Company and our customers of investing in smart grid
- > technologies, Rocky Mountain Power believes it is
- > necessary to allow additional time for smart grid
- > technologies to more fully mature, i.e. allow time for
- > technology leaders to emerge and ensure that system
- > interoperability can be verified.

This is a very short-sighted "prudence." Introduction of the smart grid is going to take several years, and many energy-saving and distributed energy options which everyone knows will be necessary depend on the smart grid. When finally a consensus has been reached that a smart is needed, RMP will say: oops, we have to wait five years because it takes time to introduce the smart grid. The time to introduce the smart grid is now!

Not all the blame goes to RMP however. The regulations as they stand now do not allow them to apply new cutting-edge technologies. This has to change. These regulations are a straightjacket keeping us in the 20th century, while the world is burning. In addition, I cannot believe that the standards for the Smart Grid are still incomplete. This is something the US government should be putting some resources into.

The RMP report did not even look at vehicle to grid, which is going to be the killer application of the Smart Grid. If you want an electric car to be part of your future in Utah, you should put a word in for the smart grid and for thorough regulatory reform in Utah.

Hans

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